Rs. 11.66 crores has been disbursed to date.

Effect of wine on health

*69. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have carried out or propose to carry out research to the effect that wine in moderate quantity helps in increasing life-span and that who drink wine, as opposed to beer or spirits or no alcohol at all, had lower death rate; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A.R. ANTULAY): (a) As per information available, no such research has been carried out in India.

(b) Does not arise.

Special programme for industrialisation

*70. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether some State Governments have drawn up special programmes with regard to industrialisation;

(b) if so, the proposals received from the State Governments of Gujarat, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra in that regard; and

(c) the extent of financial assistance sought by these State Governments for the industrial growth of their respective States?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN): (a) to (c) The States/Union Territories have been advised to formulate their own policies and programmes to provide a conducive environment for setting up of new industrial projects in their States within the broad frame work of the New Industrial Policy of the Government of India. The State Governments need not obtain any permission from Government of India for implementation of their Industrial Policy/special programmes.

Governments of Gujarat, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra have announced their policies which include special incentives/programmes envisaged for industrialisaton. The financial implications of implementing various schemes/programmes are reflected in the annual plan proposals of the respective State Governments made to the Planning Commission. The Planning Commission provides central assistance to the State as loans and grants to finance annual plans including allocation for industries.

Plague virus originated from Kazakhstan

*71. SHRI GAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the plague virus which hit Surat so badly was originated from Kazakhstan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Health have constituted a Technical Advisory Committee to determine the factors responsible for the outbreak of Plague and other related matters. The report is awaited.

Employment opportunities in rural areas

*72. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH MANN: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the population of rural areas and the number of persons employed, self-employed, semi-employed and unemployed for the last three years, category-wise;

(b) the average annual income of rural areas as compared to urban areas; and

(c) the steps/measures Government propose to bridge this income gap?